(a) whether the Government have finalised New Health Policy to enable it to meet the goal of Health for All by the year 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the policy under formulation and the time by which it is likely to be finalised; and

(d) the details of priority areas identified two strategies worked out particularly for providing health cover to rural and urban poor-women and children ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) In view of the new priorities which have emerged in the health sector and keeping in mind the status of attainment of various goals it has been decided to undertake an exercise leading to the revision of the policy. This is at a preliminary state.

(d) The thrust areas in the health sector inter-alia include measures to contain emerging and re-emerging diseases, improvement of surveillance and epidemic response systems, reproductive and child health, capacity building of institutions and health infrastructure and greater health education.

Visit of British Prime Minister

377. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether British Prime Minister recently visited India;

(b) if so, the number of agreements signed between the two countries, indicating the details thereof;

(c) the total trade likely to be increased on implementation of these agreements;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed in the coal sector also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The agreements signed during the visit were not inter-governmental, but were between British and Indian private sector companies. Any increase in trade from these agreements between private companies will depend on their implementation, and figures cannot be forecast.

(d) An MoU has been signed with the UK on "Cooperation in coal-related industries".

(e) The MoU establishes an Indo-British Coal Forum, which would be a partnership between the coal-related industries of the United Kingdom and India; it would be supported by the Governments and provide a link between them and industry. Several cooperative activities have been identified under the MoU.

Tehri Dam Project

378. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the members of the Hanumanth Rao Committee appointed by the Government one year ago to go into various aspects of the Tehri-Dam Project in Garhwal district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) when the Committee was constituted and the number of meetings held so far;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its final report;

(d) if so, the salient features of their recommendations;

(e) if not, whether the Committee has submitted its Interim Report, if so, the contents thereof;

(f) the date by which the Committee is expected to submit its final report;

(g) whether it is a fact that Union Government have rejected the recommendations of few such committees which were assigned with similar job;

(h) if so, the salient features of the recommendations of these committees; and

(i) the reasons for not accepting the above recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (i) The Government of India had examined at length all aspects of Tehri Hydroelectric Project and approval for the execution of the Tehri HE project Stage-I (1000 MW) was accorded in March, 1994, after careful consideration. However, in the context of the objections raised against the project by Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna, Government has expressed, inter-alia, its willingness to have the ecological aspects including its impact on the people of the area and resettlement of displaced persons examined by a fresh group of experts including those nominated by Shri Sunderlal Bhuguna. Accordingly, on 17-9-96 Ministry of Power constituted an expert Committee to examine rehabilitation and environmental aspects of the Tehri HE Project. The names of the members of the committee are given in the attached statement.

So far, the committee has held six meetings. The Committee has also visited the project area, various rehabilitation and some Catchment Area Treatment sites.

The committee was to submit its report within 3 months, *i.e.*, by 16-12-1996 which was extended to 15-3-1997. However, the committee has now sought a further extension of time upto 15-5-1997.